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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/813,416	03/20/2001	Dennis W. Hall	42390P11038	2408

8791 7590 03/10/2005

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EXAMINER

BILGRAMI, ASGHAR H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/813,416	HALL, DENNIS W.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Asghar Bilgrami	2143	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 October 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Fijolek et al (U.S. 6,058,421).

As per claims 1, 10, 13 & 18 Fijolek discloses a method to manage network addresses, comprising: receiving a first request for a network address from a client at an agent (col.3, lines 39-67, col.4 lines 1-32), procuring said network address from a network address provider; and sending said network address to said client (col.6, lines 64-67, col.7, lines 1-23 & col.9, lines 21-28).

3. As per claims 2 & 14 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 1, wherein said first request is received using a first protocol, and said procuring comprises: creating a second request for said network address using a second protocol; sending said second request to a network address provider; receiving said network address from said network address provider (Fijolek, col.4, lines 33-49, col.7, lines 14-23); and storing said network address in an address assignment table (Fijolek, col.9, lines 21-30).

4. As per claims 3 & 15 Fijolek disclosed he method of claim 2, wherein said creating comprises: assigning a unique identifier to said client', and creating said second request using said unique identifier (Fijolek, col.11, lines 39-44).
5. As per claims 4 & 16 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 1, further comprising managing use of said network address by said client (Fijolek, col.8, lines 65-67, col.9, lines 1-4).
6. As per claims 5 & 17 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 4, wherein said managing comprises: receiving an assignment identifier corresponding to said network address, said assignment identifier indicating a status and time period said client may use said network address', monitoring a time said client has used said network address; comparing said time to said time period; and requesting an extension to said time period in accordance with said comparison (Fijolek, col.9, lines 5-20, col.26, lines 28-40).
7. As per claim 6 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 1, wherein said network address provider is a dynamic host configuration protocol server (Fijolek, col.4, lines 33-49).
8. As per claim 7 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 1, wherein said network address comprises an Internet Protocol address (Fijolek, col.8, lines 65-67 & col.9, lines 1-4).
9. As per claim 8 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 2, wherein said first protocol is a layer two tunneling protocol (Fijolek, col.9, lines 5-20).

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10. As per claim 9 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 2, wherein said second protocol is a transport control protocol and internet protocol (Fijolek, col.7, lines 14-23, lines 51-59, col.8, lines 65-67 & col.9, lines 1-4).

11. As per claims 11 & 19 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 10, wherein said creating comprises creating said virtual connection using said network address in accordance with a security scheme (Fijolek, col.4, lines 6-32, col.9, lines 21-30).

12. As per claims 12 & 20 Fijolek disclosed the method of claim 11, wherein said security scheme is a security scheme in accordance with the DES Specification (Fijolek, col.7, lines 60-65, col.9, lines 5-20).

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments filed on October 26, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

14. The applicant's argued that "with respect to claims 1 and 13 as amended, the Fijolek reference fails to teach, among other things, the following language: receiving a first request for a network address from a client at an agent; and procuring said network address by said agent for said client from a network address provider, and also that "The Fijolek reference fails to disclose an "agent" as recited in claims 1 and 13.

As to applicants arguments Fijolek disclosed that Customer Premises equipment (CPE) (also commonly known as client or user) acquires a network address from a DHCP server through a modem that is acting as an "agent" for the CPE (see Abstract, col.6, lines 21-25, figure 1, figures 11A & B and col.12, lines 24-35).

Conclusion

1. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asghar Bilgrami whose telephone number is 571-272-3907. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:00-5:00PM.

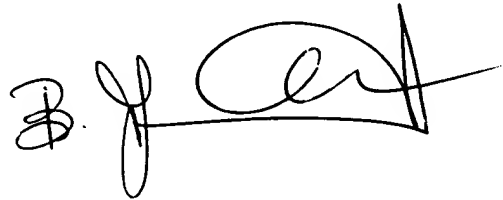
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on 571-272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Asghar Bilgrami
Examiner
Art Unit 2143

AB

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
PRIMARY EXAMINER**